

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9450

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL ITU

SUBJECT: ITU: GROUP OF EXPERTS ON RADIO REGULATIONS

REF: STATE 088458

1. MISSION OFFICER HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER WITH MATTHEY, IFRB, ON APRIL 20. ACCORDING TO MATTHEY, IFRB DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO SUBMIT DOCUMENT ON WORK OF GROUP OF EXPERTS (G/E) OR ON ARTICLE 7 OF RADIO REGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL SESSION; BOARD CHAIRMAN WILL, HOWEVER, RESPOND TO QUESTIONS OF COUNSELLORS ON THIS MATTER IF ASKED. MOREOVER, AT PRESENT TIME, BOARD DOES NOT PLAN TO SUBMIT SEPARATE PAPER ON THIS MATTER TO 1977 AEROWARC BUT WILL INCLUDE PARA (S) ON BOARD'S VIEW OF G/E'S DIVISION OF ARTICLE 7 AS PORTION OF ITS GENERAL REPORT TO CONFERENCE; SEPARATE BOARD DOES NOT FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING OUT CIRCULAR LETTER PRIOR TO OPENING OF CONFERENCE.

2. IFRB RATIONALE FOR ITS VIEWS ON SPLITTING UP OF ARTICLE 7 IS, ACCORDING TO MATTHEY, EXPLAINED IN CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 43 DATED JULY 10, 1975, WHICH WAS INCLUDED IN DOC FIVE OF G/E DOCUMENTATION SERIES.

3. BOARD'S BASIC VIEW, (WHICH IS HELD UNANIMOUSLY) IS THAT ARTICLE 7, PARTICULARLY SECTIONS 7, 8 AND 9 BELONGS

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IN BASIC AGREEMENT (PART A OF REVISED REGS), RATHER THAN

IN PART B (OPERATIONAL PORTION), BECAUSE OF BASIC NATURE AND BROAD APPLICABILITY OF SUBJECT MATTER COVERED, WHICH IN OPINION OF BOARD, GOES BEYOND MERE OPERATIONAL MATTERS. SECTION 1 THRU 6 OF ARTICLE 7, ARE OF MORE OPERATIONAL NATURE AND WHILE BOARD WOULD PREFER TO RETAIN IN PART A, IT DOES NOT STRONGLY OBJECT TO THEIR BEING INCORPORATED INTO PART B. BUT BECAUSE OF BROAD APPLICABILITY OF SECTIONS 7-9, WHICH INCLUDES SHARING BETWEEN SEVERAL SERVICES, BOARD CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL THAT THEY BE INCLUDED IN PART A ALTHOUGH IT WOULD NOT OBJECT IF THEY WERE INCLUDED BOTH IN PARTS A AND B. AS IT IS, MATTHEY NOTED, G/E SCATTERED PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 7-9 IN PART B IN FOLLOWING ARTICLES: N25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 47 AND 57.

4. RE PARA 3B REFTTEL, WHILE CERTAIN AMOUNT OF INTER-OFFICE POLITICS APPEARS TO BE INVOLVED, BOARD IS EVIDENTLY SERIOUS IN ITS OBJECTIONS FOR WHAT IT BELIEVES TO BE GOOD AND PROPER SUBSTANTIVE REASONS BASED UPON SOBER CONSIDERATIONS OF ISSUES INVOLVED AND ITS OWN READINGS OF WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO MEMBER STATES AS SHOWN AT PREVIOUS WARCS. BOARD DECIDED NOT TO PRESS ITS POSITION AT B/E MEETING BECAUSE IT BELIVED THAT MEETING HAD BEEN RIGGED BY GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN SUCH MANNER AS TO FORECLOSE SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS OF IFRB VIEWS (E.G. SECRETARY GENERAL'S NAMING OF CHAIRMAN IN HIS OPENING SPEECH WHICH MATTHEY SAID WAS FIRST TIME THIS HAD EVER OCCURRED AT ITU MEETING IN HIS OVER TWENTY YEARS WITH THE UNION). MATTHEY ALSO GAVE MISSION OFFICER HIS VIEW OF HISTORY OF REVISION OF RADIO REGS DATING BACK TO 1974 WHICH INDICATES THAT DEP SYG BUTLER HAD DECIDED UNILATERALLY HOW HE WANTED JOB DONE AND IS MOVING FORWARD ON HIS OWN WITHOUT ANY CONSIDERATION OF VIEWS OF OTHER ITU ORGANS. GIVEN THIS SITUATION, IFRB DECIDED IT WAS NOT WORTH WHILE TO PRESS CASE AT G/E MEETING BUT TO RESERVE ITS OPINION TO BRING MATTER UP AT LATER DATE.

5. MATTHEY EMPHASIZED THAT BOARD PLANS NO "POLITICAL CAMPAIGN" ON THIS MATTER, BUT THAT IT CONSIDERS DECISION OF G/E AT INSTIGATION OF GENERAL SECRETARIAT TO REMOVE ARTICLE 7 FROM PART A AND SCATTER IT IN VARIOUS PORTIONS OF PART B AS WRONG AND UNWISE AND THAT THIS VIEW WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE MADE KNOWN AT AEROWARC.

6. IN VIEW OF FULL DISCUSSION PROVIDED BY MATTHEY, MISSION HAS NOT DISCUSSED MATTER WITH KIRBY (WHO CURRENTLY ON VACATION) OR WITH PETIT. MISSION WILL DO SO IF DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY. DALE

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